

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process of making vehicle gauge faces, said process including the steps of:
 - 5 phototooling a predetermined sized and shaped vehicle gauge face;
 - preparing a predetermined size and shape metal;
 - coating said metal using a phototool of said vehicle gauge face;
 - developing said coating on a surface of said metal vehicle gauge face;
 - etching said metal vehicle gauge face on a first and second surface; and
 - 10 stripping said etched metal vehicle gauge face.
2. The process of claim 1 further including the steps of preparing initial size and shape for said vehicle gauge face to digital data in a predetermined file format.
- 15 3. The process of claim 1 further including the steps of shearing said metal stock to said predetermined size and shape.
4. The process of claim 1 further including the steps of exposing said coating to a UV light.
- 20 5. The process of claim 1 further including the steps of inspecting said metal vehicle gauge face to predetermined specifications.
6. The process of claim 2 wherein said step of phototooling includes plotting said digital data file.

7. The process of claim 1 wherein said step of preparing includes chemically and mechanically cleaning said metal.

5 8. The process of claim 1 wherein said step of coating places a laminate on said metal with a photo resist on both sides of said metal.

9. The process of claim 8 wherein said step of developing , develops said photoresist to remove an unexposed area from said metal.

10

10. The process of claim 9 wherein said step of etching removes an exposed area from said metal.

11. The process of claim 8 wherein said step of stripping dissolves said photo resist by a stripping solution leaving said metal vehicle gauge face characters, lines, and lettering intact.

12. A process of machining vehicle gauge faces from a metal material, said process including the steps of:

20 preparing design data of the vehicle gauge face into a digital data of a predetermined file format;
photo plotting said digital data with a laser onto film to produce a phototool;

coating a predetermined sized metal vehicle gauge face with a photo resist on both sides of said metal vehicle gauge face;

exposing said photo resist to an UV light through said phototool;

developing said photo resist to remove an unexposed area of said photoresist from

5 said metal vehicle gauge face;

etching said metal vehicle gauge face to remove an exposed area of said photo resist;

stripping said photo resist with a stripping solution from said metal vehicle gauge face; and

10 inspecting completed metal vehicle gauge face for compliance with predetermined specifications.

13. The process of claim 12 further including the steps of:

shearing said metal vehicle gauge face from a metal stock;

15 preparing said metal vehicle gauge face by chemically and mechanically cleaning said metal.

14. The process of claim 12 wherein said steps of developing uses a potassium carbonate substance to develop said photo resist.

20

15. The process of claim 12 wherein said steps of etching uses a 40° Be-Ferric Chloride as said etchant.

16. The process of claim 12 wherein said steps of stripping uses a Sodium Hydroxide compound as said stripper.

17. The process of claim 15 wherein said etchant is sprayed on both sides of said
5 metal vehicle gauge face.

18. The process of claim 12 wherein said exposing will polymerize said photo resist.

19. The product produced by the process of claim 1.

10

20. The product produced by the process of claim 12.